1. (Currently Amended) An engine block heating system for an engine having an electric starting circuit, comprising:

at least one electrical heating element;

a connector port coupled to said at least one electrical heating element, wherein said at least one electrical heating element receives electricity through said connector port;

a power cord that is selectively connectable to said connector port for coupling said connector port to an external source of electricity;

a sensor at said connector port for detecting when said power cord is ~~coupled~~ physically connected to said connector port;

a first terminal connection connectable to the electric starting circuit;

a second terminal connection connectable to the electric starting circuit; and

a first switch coupled to said sensor, said first terminal connection and said second terminal connection for selectively connecting and disconnecting said first terminal connection and said second terminal connection, wherein said first switch ~~is selectively changed between a closed state and an open state depending upon if~~ disconnects said first terminal connection and said second terminal connection when said sensor detects that said power cord is coupled to said connector, and interconnects said first terminal connection and said second terminal connection when said power cord is removed from said connector.

2. (Original) The system according to Claim 1, further including a second switch coupled to said sensor, wherein said second switch is selectively changed between an open state and a closed state depending upon if said sensor detects that said power cord is coupled to said

connector port.

3. (Currently Amended) In a vehicle having an engine and a starting circuit used to start the engine, an engine heating system comprising:

an electrical heating element;

a power cord for supplying electricity to said electrical heating element, wherein said power cord is selectively detachable from said electrical heating element;

a sensor for detecting if said power cord is ~~providing power~~ physically connected to said electrical heating element;

a first switch coupled to the starting circuit of the vehicle and said sensor, wherein said first switch disrupts the starting circuit when said sensor detects that said power cord is ~~providing electricity~~ physically connected to said electrical heating element.

4. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 3, further including a connector port ~~that connects~~ where said power cord interconnects to said electrical heating element.

5. (Original) The system according to Claim 4, wherein said sensor is contained within said connector port.

6. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 3, further including a second switch coupled to an alarm indicator in said vehicle and said sensor, wherein said second switch activates said alarm indicator when said sensor detects that said power cord is ~~providing~~

~~electricity~~ physically connected to said electrical heating element.

7. (Currently Amended) In a vehicle having electrical starting circuitry and a plug-in electrical engine heating system, a method of disabling the vehicle when said plug-in electrical heating system is in use, comprising the steps of:

sensing when said plug-in electrical heating system is ~~coupled~~ physically connected to a power cord that is external of said vehicle;

disrupting said electrical starting circuitry when a connection to said power cord is sensed, thereby preventing said vehicle from starting until said power cord is removed.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) The method according to Claim 7, wherein said step of disrupting said electrical starting circuitry includes providing a disruptor switch in said electrical starting circuitry that is selectively controlled by said sensor.

10. (Original) The method according to Claim 7, further including the step of providing an alarm signal to a driver of said vehicle when said driver attempts to start said vehicle while said power cord is attached to said vehicle.